

WORLD BRIEFS

Death of Inmate Raises Questions About a Nicaraguan Prison

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

MANAGUA — Beneath a hill in the center of Managua there is an underground prison where, according to former inmates, political prisoners often are held for days or weeks under harsh and disorienting conditions.

The question of conditions at the prison was raised when Nicaraguan officials said that a former official committed suicide in his cell there in June. Relatives of the man, Eduardo Trejos Silva, a former lieutenant in the Interior Ministry who had been convicted of spying for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, have said privately that they do not believe he killed himself.

rights organization has been granted access to the prison, which is called El Chipoté. Senior security officials did not respond to requests for interviews to discuss conditions there.

But the interior minister, Tomás Borge Martínez, said last month that his policy was not to keep detainees isolated for longer than 15 days. It would be inadmissible, he said, for human rights groups to be present when prisoners are under interrogatory techniques.

The prison was built nearly 40 years ago. Nearly 20 former El Chipoté inmates interviewed in recent weeks described having been kept in dark cells, some no bigger than closets, for extended periods, occasionally broken by long interrogations about their activities and associates.

Many of the former inmates said they had been told that they were about to be executed, or that their relatives were dead or in danger. Most said they had not been beaten or physically tortured, but were subjected to what they described as highly effective forms of psychological pressure.

In a case that apparently is not typical, Sofonias Cisneros Leiva, 61, said that during his detention at the prison last year, he was beaten by Commander Lenin Cerma, head of the state security agency. According to interviews with other former prisoners, beatings are unusual in the prison.

Mr. Cisneros, who headed a Roman Catholic school parents' group, said he had been hit in the face and body and kicked by

Commander Cerma. He said that he had been told he would die in the prison and that his relatives would be told he had committed suicide, but the day after his arrest he was released and turned out naked on a Managua street.

During a visit to the United States last month, the Nicaraguan president, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, was questioned about allegations of human rights violations in Nicaraguan prisons. He denied all assertions of torture.

"I can assure you that torture does not exist in Nicaragua," he said. "It is not a practice of our government or our security, and I can assure you that Lenin Cerma has not tortured anyone."

He said that 600 members of Nicaragua's military and security forces have been condemned to prison, some for the maximum penalty of 30 years.

In almost every case, the political activists who were held at El Chipoté said they had been put under pressure to implicate associates in supposed rebel plots or to become security agents and inform on people.

The former inmates described remarkably similar experiences at the prison. All said they had been forced to look at the ground at all times, forbidden to speak unless spoken to and always addressed by number rather than name. They said that cell doors were made of solid metal plates rather than bars, thereby keeping the cells dark, and that sanitary facilities were limited to a hole in the floor of each cell.

Gas in Cameroon Said to Kill 300

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP) — Toxic gas escaping from a lake in a volcanic crater in northwest Cameroon may have killed at least 300 people, government sources said Sunday. Travelers arriving in the capital of Yaoundé from the region said as many as 1,000 people may have perished. An official communiqué reported that President Paul Biya visited the region near the Nigerian border Sunday and declared it a disaster area. At least three villages were affected, according to the communiqué read over state television.

Sandinists Arrest Alleged CIA Spy

MANAGUA (UPI) — The vice president of the Nicaraguan Chamber of Commerce has been arrested on charges of spying for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency against the Sandinist government, officials said Sunday. Guillermo Quatt Tai, 55, was interrogated by state security agents following his arrest Tuesday on charges of working for the U.S. agency, Interior Ministry officials said. The official said that agents had searched Mr. Quatt Tai's house and found secret codes hidden in a bathroom soap "specially prepared by the CIA," which is involved in the U.S. support for Nicaraguan rebels.

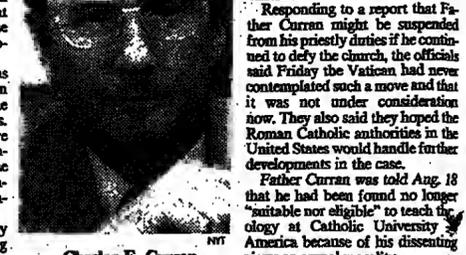
The codes were used to decipher messages with instructions from the CIA, the ministry official said, adding that Mr. Quatt Tai sent coded "information solicited by the CIA" to post office boxes in Costa Rica and Mexico. The official did not reveal the contents of the information Mr. Quatt Tai allegedly transmitted, but quoted him as saying he had been recruited by the agency in 1983. Mr. Quatt Tai is the third alleged spy to be arrested by Nicaraguan security officers this year.

7 More in Israel's Shin Bet Pardoned

TEL AVIV (Reuters) — President Chaim Herzog pardoned on Sunday seven more members of Israel's Shin Bet security agency who were linked to the killing in April 1984 of two captured Palestinian bus hijackers. The pardons were expected after the Israel High Court of Justice this month upheld presidential pardons granted in June of the Shin Bet chief, Avshalom Shalom, and three aides in connection with the affair. Mr. Shalom resigned in June in exchange for the pardon. The pardons will protect the 11 Shin Bet members from prosecutions that might arise from a police investigation of the killings of the two captured guerrillas and a subsequent Shin Bet cover-up.

No More Disciplinary Action for Priest

ROME (NYT) — The Vatican is not considering further action against the Reverend Charles E. Curran, the theologian who has been prohibited from teaching theology at a Catholic university in Washington, according to Vatican officials. Responding to a report that Father Curran might be suspended from his priestly duties if he continued to defy the church, the officials said Friday the Vatican had never contemplated such a move and that it was not under consideration now. They also said they hoped the Roman Catholic authorities in the United States would handle further developments in the case. Father Curran was told Aug. 18 that he had been found no longer "suitable nor eligible" to teach theology at Catholic University of America because of his dissenting views on sexual morality.



Charles E. Curran

Uganda Asserts Sudan Aids Rebels

KAMPALA, Uganda (Reuters) — President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda said Sunday that he had evidence of Sudanese government complicity in the activities of rebels who have attacked government troops in northern Uganda at least five times in the past two weeks. He said at a news conference that the Sudanese Army had given the rebels food and handed back guns they had confiscated when the rebels crossed the border in January. He said that when he met the Sudanese prime minister, Sadeq al-Mahdi, in Addis Ababa last month he briefed him on the problem of the rebels but that no action had been taken to stop the attacks. Travelers from the north said Sunday that the attacks have forced thousands of civilians to flee into the north Ugandan town of Kitgum, about 217 miles (350 kilometers) from Kampala.

Agents in Mexico Legally, U.S. Says

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The presence of American drug agents in Mexico to help fight the smuggling of narcotics into the United States is legal, according to the U.S. Embassy, and protected by dozens of agreements between the two nations. The embassy statement, issued late Friday, was in response to a growing controversy in Mexico over the presence of agents from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. That controversy developed following assertions that the police in the state of Jalisco had detained a U.S. agent, Victor Cortez Jr., and had beaten and tortured him.

10th Game of Chess Match Is a Draw

LONDON (Reuters) — A draw was agreed upon Saturday in the adjourned 10th game of the world chess championship between Gari Kasparov and Anatoli Karpov after Mr. Kasparov's sealed 44th move, Kf5, was opened. Experts had been predicting a draw. The offer to split the point came from Mr. Kasparov and was agreed upon 50 minutes before the scheduled start of play. The result keeps the champion in the lead with a score of five and a half points to Mr. Karpov's four and a half. Mr. Kasparov needs 12 points to retain the title. Play is to resume Monday.

For the Record

Lawyers setting for Sudan asked a court in Cairo on Sunday to withdraw the right of the former Sudanese president, Gaafar Nimeiri, to political asylum in Egypt. Mr. Nimeiri, who was overthrown in April 1985, faces charges in Egypt of treason and corruption. The hearing was adjourned until Sept. 7. A former head of Italy's military secret services, General Ambrogio Viviani, has been detained for failing to cooperate with an inquiry into possible links between Arab guerrilla groups and the secret services, judicial sources said Saturday in Venice. The Soviet Union will test five missiles into two areas of the North Pacific between Aug. 26 and Sept. 5, the Tass press agency said Saturday. It said the government was asking international shipping and airlines not to enter the areas. Bolivian workers ended Saturday a two-day strike that shut industry and schools and cut transportation, but vowed further protests of the government's austerity policies and the presence of U.S. troops during an anti-cocaine drive. (Reuters)

SPY: U.S. Holds Russian

(Continued from Page 1) affairs officer. As an officer or employee of an international organization his visa gave him "only limited diplomatic immunity that does not extend to espionage," the FBI said. "Zakharov appears to have used his position with the United Nations, an agency established to further international peace and security, to carry out espionage thus violating the UN's spirit of trust and cooperation," Mr. Webster said. Arraignments were scheduled for Monday before a U.S. magistrate in New York. An FBI spokesman said that, if convicted, Mr. Zakharov could be sentenced to a maximum of life in prison. Much U.S. criticism of the Soviet UN delegation has focused on its size, with officials saying it is larger than needed for diplomacy. For example, the United States and Chinese missions combined are smaller than the Soviet representation. Former Undersecretary-General Arkady N. Shevchenko, who was the senior Soviet official at UN headquarters from 1973 until his defection in 1978, has estimated that a third of all Soviet bloc citizens at the world body were engaged in intelligence-gathering for their governments.

South Africa's 6 Black Neighbors Will Urge Reagan to Visit Region

By Allister Sparks
Washington Post Service

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania — Six leaders of black African nations opposed to South African policies will issue a joint invitation to President Ronald Reagan to visit the region for a meeting with them, the chairman of the group, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, has announced.

Mr. Kaunda made the announcement Saturday in the presence of the Reverend Jesse Jackson before the black U.S. rights activist flew to Tanzania.

Mr. Kaunda said the purpose of the invitation was to help Mr. Reagan understand South Africa's aggressive role in the region; he said

its behavior has brought southern Africa to the edge of a racial explosion.

If Mr. Reagan could not make the trip to Africa, Mr. Kaunda said, then the six leaders would ask him to meet with them jointly in Washington.

The other five nations are Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Their leaders met last week in Angola.

"The situation in southern Africa has reached the boiling point," Mr. Kaunda said. "We are close to an explosion. History should not find us faulty that, realizing this, we did not go to the one man who could have done something about it."

This reflects a view widely held among black leaders here that strong U.S. sanctions could be decisive in forcing South Africa to dismantle apartheid and end white minority rule.

Attack on Zulu Leader Falls

William Claiborne of the Washington Post reported from Johannesburg:

Gunsmen threw a grenade at the home of a Zulu leader and then sprayed his car with automatic rifle fire, killing the wife and seriously wounding three of his children, according to the authorities in Durban.

The Zulu leader, Wintomb Sabelo, a member of the KwaZulu homeland legislature and an official in the Inkatha party headed by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, was not at his home in Umhlang, near Durban, when the attack occurred Friday night, the state Bureau for Information said Saturday.

The authorities said Mr. Sabelo's wife, Evelyn, was entering into the driveway of their home when the gunman threw one hand grenade and fired bursts from an AK-47 rifle.

No group asserted responsibility for the attack, which was the second against Mr. Sabelo's home in recent months.

The attack appeared designed, in part, to increase pressure on Chief Buthelezi, who has been at odds with the African National Congress, the outlawed nationalist movement fighting to end white rule in South Africa.

Meanwhile, President Pieter W. Botha accused the West on Saturday of gambling with South Africa's stability and issued a veiled warning that the sea route around the Cape of Good Hope should not be taken for granted by Western nations.

Mr. Botha said some Western leaders were ignoring the strategic importance of the cape sea route.

Freilite Reportedly Tortured
A Roman Catholic prelate in South Africa was tortured during questioning by the authorities last week, and lawyers have appealed to that nation's Supreme Court to grant an immediate order barring further abuse, according to Catholic officials and court documents. The New York Times reported from New York Saturday.

The prelate is the Reverend Sanaugaliso Mkhatsiwa.



New Delhi operators protesting at telephone exchange.

Indian Army Ends Strike By Telephone Operators

The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — The army seized the main telephone exchange here to end a wildcat strike set off by an operator's complaint that she had been manhandled by a former cabinet minister who was enraged over slow service and was waving a gun.

Soldiers ordered out on Saturday more than 100 women operators who had perched atop switchboards and refused to book long-distance calls.

The army signal corps had orders to restore service if necessary. Later, a telephone company official said the troops withdrew early Sunday and about 3,000 strikers had left peacefully.

Prakash Chand Sethi, 65, a former home minister in charge of law and order, acknowledged that he entered the exchange early Friday with four bodyguards to find out why after three hours his call to Bombay had not gone through. He said he had been pushed around. The operators' version was that Mr. Sethi appeared to be drunk, had waved a pistol and a cigar, and had shouted insults and obscenities.

Later Mr. Sethi, a member of the Congress (I) Party of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, said: "This is the worst telephone system in the world."

The system is notorious for inefficiency, long delays, bad lines and dead phones.

The police registered charges against Mr. Sethi of trespassing, using abusive language and assaulting a public servant.

Further investigation will determine whether formal charges will be filed. Mr. Sethi was not arrested.

"He squeezed my arms and blew smoke in my face," said an operator who would identify herself only as Kiran. "He abused me and said he could buy me."

Since the strike began Friday morning, residents of New Delhi had been unable to place calls to other cities and overseas. Local service was not affected.

Aquino Begins First Foreign Trip

By William Branigan
Washington Post Service

MANILA — President Corason C. Aquino flew Sunday to Indonesia on his first foreign trip since taking office six months ago, leaving behind a nation jittery about rumors of a military coup and threats of opposition disturbances.

At a departure ceremony at Villamor Air Base near Manila, Mrs. Aquino said she was leaving the country in good hands during her three-day state visit to Jakarta and Singapore.

She was seen off at the air base by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Vice President Salvador H. Laurel, the armed forces chief of staff, General Fidel V. Ramos, and other officials.

In an address Saturday to supporters in her home province of Tarlac, Mrs. Aquino said that "there are those who ask me if I am afraid" to leave the Philippines at this time. "I am not afraid because I know I have the people's support," she said.

In Jakarta, Mrs. Aquino was greeted by President Suharto, given a 21-gun salute and driven into the city past cheering crowds. Mrs. Aquino, who is traveling with five cabinet ministers and an army general, is scheduled to visit Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore on Tuesday and return to Manila Wednesday.

With her government beset by internal squabbling, continuing economic difficulties, a Communist insurgency and periodic disturbances by followers of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos, many Filipinos are watching nervously to see what might happen in Mrs. Aquino's absence.

While she was visiting the southern island of Mindanao in early July, Marcos supporters tried unsuccessfully to stage a coup.

Mrs. Aquino said Sunday she was visiting two of the Philippines' neighbors on her first foreign trip to "strengthen our mutual bonds" and "balance peace in Southeast Asia."

The journey also is widely seen as something of a dress rehearsal for an eight-day trip to the United States starting Sept. 15. That trip is considered a likelihood for Marcos supporters to try to stage some activity aimed at embarrassing her.

KAL: Soviet Blunders Are Blamed

(Continued from Page 1)

military reconnaissance flights in the area.

The information intercepted by the United States is said to include recordings of phone calls by Soviet military officials and videotapes of Soviet radar data.

The article says that the National Security Agency, which has responsibility for intercepting communications, recorded a conversation in which a Soviet military official on the Pacific coast called Moscow over an open telephone line—after trying three times unsuccessfully to use a scrambled line—to ask about shooting down an American military intruder.

"He was obviously under pressure to get a decision," the article quotes an analyst as saying. "He was not going to shoot down an American aircraft without getting some authorization from higher headquarters."

After the incident, the United States accused the Soviet Union of having deliberately attacked a civilian plane. President Ronald Reagan said four days after the incident that "there is no way a pilot could mistake this for anything other than a civilian airliner."

The article says that U.S. intelligence subsequently found that a succession of Soviet errors had led to just such a miscalculation.

The article attributes the straying of the Korean airliner to mistakes in programming its inertial navigation system.

As it happened, when the airliner first mistakenly entered Soviet air-

space over the Kamchatka peninsula, a U.S. reconnaissance plane was in the area hoping to gather data on an expected Soviet missile launching, according to the article.

On the night of Aug. 31, the Soviet missile launching was canceled and the reconnaissance plane, an RC-135, returned to its base, the article says.

Soviet officials have contended that the airliner and the reconnaissance plane flew side by side. But the National Security Agency found no evidence to confirm that.

According to the article, officials of the National Security Agency told Congress in secret briefings that the Russians had tracked the reconnaissance plane back to its base and had assumed that the airliner was part of another U.S. program aimed at intercepting communications.

But the U.S. Air Force's Electronic Security Command, which is a military component of National Security Agency operations, contended that Soviet radar operators had been confused by the proximity of the RC-135.

The article says Soviet radar is not effective in distinguishing sizes of planes. In some instances, Soviet forces have mistakenly attacked Soviet airliners, it says.

It adds that the United States appears to be keeping a better record of Soviet radar tracking than do the Russians themselves, because the United States routinely videotapes intercepted Soviet radar information while the Russians rely on the memory of operators.

PAKISTAN: Fear of Bhuttoism

(Continued from Page 1)

holding families. To many, this too is Bhuttoism.

But there also are large numbers of people in and out of the current government for whom Bhuttoism means turmoil, political prisoners, corruption of the judiciary, censorship, police-state repression and the politics of a personality cult.

For people with such memories, her father is feared and despised. Even among her anti-government allies, the antipathy remains strong. Well before he led Pakistan, he rose to popularity as the foreign minister.

His newly formed Pakistan People's Party won in what was then West Pakistan in the 1970 election, but General Mohammed Yahya Khan yielded to him only after the defeat in 1971 in which East Pakistan became Bangladesh.

Bhutto was widely regarded as a shrewd and gregarious politician. He doted on his eldest daughter and sent her to Radcliffe College and Oxford University.

While she was studying overseas, Bhutto railed Pakistan with what many recall as brilliance and ruthlessness, restoring pride and a sense of national purpose after the 1971 debacle.

He nationalized Pakistan's heavy industry, banks and insurance

companies, eventually extending nationalization to thousands of small cotton and grain mills. These steps pleased the peasants, the wealthy feudal landlords and the leftist intellectuals who formed his political base, but they infuriated many in the middle.

Distrustful of Pakistan's powerful military and civilian bureaucracies, Bhutto sought to supplant their leadership with new groups of his own followers. He abolished the civil service and also established his own loyalist security force. For the post of army chief of staff, he selected the little-known Mohammed Zia ul-Haq in hope of curbing the ambitions of the generals.

Another aspect of Bhuttoism that enraged many in Pakistan and his secularists, Bhutto used to complain privately about the Muslim mullahs as "those damn beards" and loved to relax with a whisky among friends. He also had a reputation as a womanizer that was denounced repeatedly in speeches by Islamic religious opponents.

Few commentators see General Zia as popular, and few doubt the



Benazir Bhutto

huge popularity of Miss Bhutto. But the legacy of Bhuttoism is widely seen as a mixed blessing by her cause that will likely play a major role in confrontations to come.

Meanwhile, General Zia has returned to Pakistan from a pilgrimage to Mecca to begin talks concerning the two weeks of unrest during his absence.

THAILAND: Popular Monarchy

(Continued from Page 1)

several sources. King Bhumibol was born in 1927 in Boston while his father, Prince Mahidol, a grandson of King Mongkut who married a commoner, was studying medicine at Harvard University. The king was educated in Swiss schools and the University of Lausanne. He is a tireless worker, especially in rural development.

The measure of Thailand's reliance on the stabilizing and unifying

influence of the monarchy can be found in the halls of the legislature, where younger members are fired with the desire to put the country on a genuine democratic road after years of military domination. None, however, radical, calls for a presidential system.

"British-style democracy is best for us," one young legislator said last week. "Our constitutional monarchy is just right for Thailand."

DEPORT: New Calls for Reform of U.S. Entry Laws

(Continued from Page 1)

director of the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights.

Representative Barney Frank, Democrat of Massachusetts, who is author of a bill aimed at changing current immigration law, said: "It's the one area in which we are clearly in violation of the Helsinki Accords on freedom of travel for those with different ideological beliefs. It makes America look bad."

An Immigration and Naturalization Service official, Scott Blackman, countered that he viewed the Yatsani case as "an isolated circumstance."

A spokesman for the State Department, James Callahan, said Thursday that he, too, saw this case as "a very much of an anomaly."

"In 1985, we issued 250,000 visas with waivers," he said "so it certainly is not an unusual thing."

Civil libertarians say the issue is whether an individual's beliefs and associations should be grounds for barring him from the United States, as the McCarran-Walter Act of 1952 allows.

In Mr. Yatsani's case, the State Department has refused to disclose the evidence on which its allegations are based.

However, a Japanese law-enforcement official in Tokyo asserted that in the 1960s Mr. Yatsani was campus leader of a leftist extremist group called the Socialist Student League.

"I was not a leader or even a member of this organization," Mr. Yatsani said from his home in Port Jefferson, New York.

He said he was president of the student body at Doshisha University in Kyoto. "I was elected to that position and it was a democratic organization," he said. "I belonged to no other groups."

In 1968, as Mr. Yatsani acknowledges, he was arrested along with other students after a demonstration in Osaka against the Vietnam War.

He was placed on probation for a year on charges of interfering with government officials and a minor weapons violation, although the nature of the violation is not clear. Evidently, the arrest and the allegation that Mr. Yatsani belonged to the Socialist Student League resulted in his inclusion on the lookout

LIBYA: U.S., Egypt in Exercises

(Continued from Page 1)

ported in recent weeks that Colonel Gadhafi was being challenged at home, apparently by some military leaders, sources said.

The U.S. administration repeatedly has pressed the Egyptian government to get tough with Colonel Gadhafi, and the joint exercise off Libya is being portrayed by U.S. officials as a step in that direction.

U.S. Navy and Egyptian warplanes have joined in exercises over the Mediterranean previously, but Sea Wind is expected to be conducted closer to Libya than previous joint maneuvers.

The Egyptian Air Force is expected to fly F-16 fighter-bombers out of its West Cairo base. The F-16s will maneuver with and against F-14 fighters from two carriers.

The Forrestal is now in the central Mediterranean, officials said, and will be joined soon by the John F. Kennedy, which left Norfolk, Virginia, on Monday. The Kennedy is

to replace the America, which is returning home next month to make good on the navy's promise to limit deployments to six months.

In recent weeks, sources said, Libyan MIG-23 Flogger fighter planes have dashed across the elbow of the Gulf of Sidra by flying from Misratah to Beninah, air bases on the coast. The big question now, sources said, is whether Colonel Gadhafi will send the MIG-23s farther out to sea to confront, but not necessarily fire on, the F-14s that will be patrolling international airspace off Tripoli.

Navy electronic-warfare and surveillance planes from the two carriers are to keep a close watch on Libyan air bases and the two SAM-5 anti-aircraft missile sites at Sirte and Benghazi, officials said. Colonel Gadhafi ordered missiles fired in March during U.S. naval exercises, triggering retaliatory attacks against his ships and anti-aircraft sites.

CHINA: Beijing Sentences American as Spy for Taiwan

(Continued from Page 1)

and a Hangzhou resident named Zhu Junyi, 43.

The Chinese account did not provide details of what sort of information those three were supposed to have provided to Mr. Loo or how the alleged spy ring operated. The account said only that Mr. Yu had "covered Loo while he spied."

The press agency said that the four alleged espionage agents had been "recently convicted" in the

courts of Beijing and Hangzhou. The press account asserted that the four "pleaded guilty when confronted with overwhelming evidence."

In China, there is no general right to a public trial.

Mr. Loo's 12-year prison term was the harshest one handed out. Mrs. Ning and Mr. Zhu were each sentenced to 10 years in prison, and Mr. Yu to three years.

The Chinese press account said that the four were arrested "after

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Salvador. Labels Agree to Reopen Peace Talks. About People

El Salvador, Rebels Agree To Reopen Peace Talks

By Edward Cody
Washington Post Service

MEXICO CITY — The Salvadoran government and leftist rebel leaders have agreed to reopen peace talks Sept. 19 in a renewed effort to settle the civil war that began seven years ago, the two sides announced here.

The public discussions, resuming after nearly two years, are to take place in the village of Seseo in eastern El Salvador, the region most heavily damaged in fighting between the U.S.-backed Salvadoran Army and the guerrilla Frente Revolucionario.

Two previous sessions, both held in El Salvador in late 1984, made no progress toward ending the war. President José Napoleón Duarte and the top rebel leaders, including Joaquín Villalobos of the People's Revolutionary Army, are expected to participate in the discussions. They would be the first such negotiations since a confrontational encounter in a summit at Ayacucho, El Salvador, in November 1984.

That meeting led Mr. Duarte to break off what had begun only one month earlier as a promise of continuing dialogue between the warring sides. Since then, the Salvadoran Army has scored substantial gains on the battlefield, strengthening Mr. Duarte's demand that the rebels lay down their arms and make their struggle political.



Julio Adolfo Ray Prendes, the Salvadoran communications minister, with a copy of an agreement for talks with Salvadoran rebels. The document was signed in Mexico.

But the guerrilla leadership has insisted that the negotiations must first deal with rebel demands for participation in a provisional government to organize new elections and for integration of insurgent forces into the Salvadoran Army.

This wide gap has generated predictions that little can come of the renewed talks beyond gestures, particularly since some Salvadoran Army officers have indicated recently that they think military victory is within reach.

A measure of the distance between the two sides was the difficulty they had during three days of private talks in Mexico City just to agree on a time and site for the next round of talks.

A communiqué, signed only by

Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas of San Salvador, said the agenda for the talks next month was not discussed and that a number of practical points such as security for the meeting also were not agreed upon.

The priest's signature on the communiqué reflected his role as mediator. Julio Adolfo Ray Prendes, the Salvadoran communications and culture minister, said another private discussion will be held in the first half of September to prepare for the new round of public talks on Sept. 19. By mutual agreement, the time and site can still be changed, he added.

The rebel leadership had sought to have the talks in the capital, San Salvador.

U.S. Governors Offer Plan for Educational Reform

By David S. Broder
Washington Post Service

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina — U.S. governors have opened a campaign for a restructuring of the nation's public school system, urging national standards for teaching, year-round use of schools, greater parental choice among public schools and aggressive preschool outreach programs to poor children.

These and other recommendations were included in a report released here Saturday before the beginning of the state governors' annual meeting. Also issued was a pledge that states would use the report as a benchmark to measure their progress in education reform during the next five years.

A major theme of the report was the suggestion that state governments should give teachers greater freedom in running schools and designing curricula in return for teachers accepting greater accountability for educational results.

Education Secretary William J. Bennett, speaking at the convention Sunday, praised the study saying: "This may be the single most important event in American education in the last five years." The Associated Press reported. "By 1991," he said, "their recommended reforms should be visible in every school in the land."

Governor Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, who is chairman of the National Governors' Association and of the task force that produced the report, said: "The governors are in this for the long haul."

Mr. Alexander, a Republican, is leaving office this year. His successor as chairman of the association, Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas, was co-chairman of the task force

Working Mothers' Children Score Higher

By Sally Squires
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Children of working mothers in the United States scored higher in mathematics and reading, were absent fewer days from school and were more self-reliant than youngsters of nonworking mothers, according to a new national study.

John Guidubaldi, a Kent State University psychologist and co-author of the five-year study, said its major implication was "to dispel the myth" that employment of mothers "is bad for children."

The study was presented Saturday at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association.

The findings, drawn from a sample of 573 first-, third- and fifth-graders in 38 states, painted a new picture of working mothers' children. Rather than being deprived and faring poorly because of lack of attention, these youngsters seem to be thriving, the researchers reported.

Children with working mothers scored higher on IQ tests. They had better communication skills, were more involved in school activities and were rated higher in school achievement by their teachers. They also got high marks for being better able to do things for themselves.

The study suggested differences, however, among children of working mothers. and has pledged to continue the initiative. Mr. Clinton is a Democrat.

The governors put no price tag on the program, which calls for higher teacher salaries, rehabilitation of run-down education facilities and better use of computers, video disks and other technology. Mr. Alexander said that states had been able to accelerate education spending in the past three years and would continue to do so because "we have found raising

"Children did better," Mr. Guidubaldi said, "if their mothers worked part-time rather than full-time." They also were better off if their mothers were married rather than divorced, had a high-status job with flexible hours and were "satisfied with the dual roles of working woman and mother."

About 13 million mothers of children 18 years of age and younger were employed in 1985, according to the Census Bureau. By 1990, if trends continue, 86 percent of American women with children 18 years and younger will be in the workplace.

The findings showed even greater differences among the children of single-parent families, which account for more than 16 percent of all U.S. families.

"In divorced families, children whose mothers worked showed more originality and involvement in classroom activities," said Bonnie Nastasi, a psychologist and a co-author of the study. She said they also had "better communication skills, higher reading and math grades, and higher IQs" than their peers from families where mothers did not work.

The findings suggested, she said, "that employment of divorced, single-parent mothers is not detrimental to children's well-being and may, in fact, enhance children's social-emotional adjustment and academic achievement."

teaching, drafted by the governor of New Jersey, Thomas H. Kean, a Republican, endorsed the creation of a national board of professional teacher standards. This was proposed earlier this year by the Carnegie Forum on Education and the Economy. The report also called for the overhaul of teacher training.

Mr. Kean said that in cases of "systemwide failure" by local school districts to meet standards for educational achievement, states should be ready to intervene and

take over the schools until the situation is remedied.

But on the issue of performance pay for teachers and rewards for successful schools, he conceded that "the question of how to align teacher incentives to student performance is much debated but not yet answered in a way policy-makers can use."

A section written by Governor Richard D. Lamm of Colorado, a Democrat, reviewed experiments permitting parents to select the public school their child attended. It said they had shown that "students achieve more, parents are more satisfied and educators feel more like professionals who have been selected by their clients."

The governors' report, titled "Time for Results," is part of an effort by business leaders and political figures to persuade both the public and the education establishment that fundamental changes must be made in the public-school system in the United States.

Speaking of education abroad, Mr. Alexander said: "What we learn when we go are children who learn more languages and go to school more days than our children."

"U.S. eighth-graders' math skills," he said, "rank ninth among 12 major industrial countries of the world."

AMERICAN TOPICS

In Protests, No Right To a Scenic Backdrop

In a landmark ruling on political demonstrations in Washington, four conservatives have lost their bid to carry placards in front of the Soviet and Nicaraguan embassies criticizing those two governments.

A federal appeals court last week upheld a Washington law that allows the police to prohibit hostile placards and demonstrations within 500 feet (150 meters) of an embassy. The plaintiffs, including R. David Frantz, national chairman of the Young Conservative Alliance of America, said they would appeal the ruling.

Judge Robert H. Bork, writing for the court majority, held that the government's obligation under international law to protect against "efforts to the dignity of foreign governments," as well as to guard the security of embassies, outweighed demonstrators' rights of free speech as set out in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The judge disparaged the view that the Washington law curbed free political speech. The law, he wrote, imposed "only a very minor geographic limitation" that left critics free to demonstrate elsewhere.

"There is no right," he added, "to the backdrop most interesting to press photographers or television cameramen."

Notes About People

The new director of New York City high schools, Dr. Frank L. Smith, plans to change the curricula and staffs of the five schools with the worst academic records. "Kids are consumers of lessons," said Dr. Smith. "They make decisions largely on whether those lessons can work for them. We've got to have lessons that make it more worthwhile to be in school than on the streets."

Representative Bill Alexander, Democrat of Arkansas, who faces re-election in November, is still trying to live down the damaging political effects of the trip he made last year to Brazil—a fact-finding mission on alcohol fuel production, which he made at government expense to the tune of \$50,000. The National Republican Congressional Committee took advantage of the issue by organizing a lottery designed to focus attention on the congressman's excursion. The prizes: a free trip for two anywhere in the world. The tactic fell flat, however, when the winners turned out to be staunch Alexander supporters.

Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles has endorsed legislation to require stricter reporting of cash transactions by banks as a way to crack down on the "laundering" of money from criminal transactions. "We need a law that will take some of the profit out of crime," he said, "and drive the Misfortune 500 out of California."

Rear Admiral Grace Hopper, (known as Amazing Grace to her subordinates) retired Thursday as the nation's oldest active duty officer, at age 79. She joined the navy in 1944 after receiving a doctorate from Yale University, and served for years as a computer specialist.

A career spent trying to get the navy to adapt smoothly to the computer age led her to believe that people are, as she put it, "allergic to change."

Her trademark, a clock that ran counterclockwise, was meant to remind visitors that her mission

was to change people's minds. "I think with a new idea," she said, "you have to have a certain number of people who make themselves obnoxious."

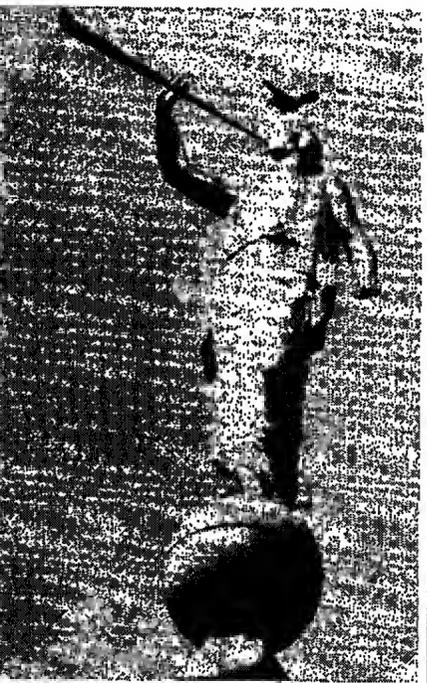
Short Takes

The writer, adventurer and Communist John Reed, a 1910 graduate of Harvard University, offered an interesting description of the students at his alma mater, which celebrates its 250th anniversary next month. There are, he said, "all sorts of strange characters of every race and mind, poets, philosophers, cranks of every twist." He added: "No matter what you were or what you did, at Harvard you could find your kind."

Phillips Petroleum Co. has set a deadline of Aug. 31 for residents of Phillips, Texas, to get out of town. The company built Phillips half a century ago. But now it wants the last 200 or so homeowners who rent the land under their houses to leave so that it can expand its refinery next door.

The Congressional Office of Technology Assessment has news for those who worry about the future — keep worrying. People living and working on the projected space station, the office says in a report, "may not enjoy the protection of many of the laws we take for granted on Earth — laws that regulate commerce, property and personal interaction."

Shorter Takes: A \$50-million grant has been allocated as the initial funding for the new National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research at the State University of New York at Buffalo. The grant consists of \$25 million from the National Science Foundation and at least \$25 million to be donated over five years by the state of New York. □ The author of the book "Pay No Income Taxes Without Going to Jail," Philip Fry, was sentenced



BIRD OF PRAY? — A peregrine falcon chick perches atop a statue of the angel Moroni on the Mormon Temple in Salt Lake City, Utah. The chick, one of three born this spring on the window ledge of a hotel, was the first to learn to fly. Falcons usually live in the wild.

by a federal court in Columbus, Ohio, to five years in prison for fraud — for advising clients on how to cheat on income taxes. — DAVID HOWLEY

U.S. Expected to Cut Scope of Drugs Tests

By Judith Havemann
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Only federal workers who hold sensitive positions or who are suspected of using drugs would be required to take urinalysis tests for drug use, according to a proposal by a staff-level working group preparing recommendations for the White House Domestic Policy Council.

The memorandum by the Drug-Free Workplace Task Force is one of three proposals that have been circulated in recent weeks within the administration calling for the testing of federal workers.

The earlier two proposals were more sweeping, and they were rejected by the White House after they were leaked to news organizations and created a furor among federal workers and civil libertarians.

A proposal from the Office of Personnel Management would have made it easier to dismiss employees who used illegal drugs and would have cut back on an employee's automatic right to seek what the office described as endless rounds of unsuccessful rehabilitation.

"There will be no legislation of that type," according to the White House spokesman, Larry Speakes. The second proposal was being promoted by Justice Department officials. It called for an executive order that would have required narcotics testing for more than half of the nation's civilian government employees.

The White House chief of staff, Donald T. Regan, said Thursday that President President Ronald Reagan had decided to test those federal employees involved in law enforcement or whose jobs make

them responsible for the safety of other Americans.

Mr. Speakes said the report was never given to Mr. Reagan because he had decided on a program of mostly voluntary drug testing and rehabilitation for users.

He also said that anyone found to have used drugs, even among those subject to mandatory testing, would be offered treatment rather than be dismissed.

The White House adviser on domestic policy, John A. Svahn, described all of the documents as "low-level working papers."

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| • Capital & Reserves (in bn US\$) | 3.8 |
| • Branches Worldwide | 1,410 |
| • Employees | 48,851 |
| • Stockholders | 245,000 |

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OPINION

Most of the 1986 Fights Are Predictable

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON—Political reporters, like boxing writers, have an occupational interest in hyping the suspense in the contests they are covering. No matter what the mismatch, our inclination is to suggest that an upset is not impossible. I personally know five still-

each of which has interesting races for both Senate and governor — will receive plenty of press and television attention, so the lucky winners there will reap a publicity bonanza. Other states which will see more than their share of gypsy journalists and camera crews include South Dakota, Missouri, Idaho, North Carolina, Nevada, Colorado, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, Alabama and Michigan.

— each of which has interesting races for both Senate and governor — will receive plenty of press and television attention, so the lucky winners there will reap a publicity bonanza. Other states which will see more than their share of gypsy journalists and camera crews include South Dakota, Missouri, Idaho, North Carolina, Nevada, Colorado, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, Alabama and Michigan.



A Summer Version of Noise That You Can't Take Home

By Ellen Goodman

CASCO BAY, Maine — "Is it quiet up there?" My friend asks this question wistfully. She has called long distance, from her city to my countryside, from her desk to my cottage.

rustling through the bushes, a hawk piping its song above me. If I concentrate, I imagine that I can even make out different voices of the wind moving through alder, bayberry or birch.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Dutch Have Set a Good Example on Integration

Regarding "In Europe, Blacks Find Racism and Isolation in City Ghettos" (Aug. 7): As an American with a degree in the social sciences who lived two years in a Detroit ghetto, I take exception to two major points in James M. Markham's article: that the Dutch are racist, and that the Bijlmermeer is a ghetto.

Mexican Border Trouble

Your coverage of the new wave of immigration into the United States ignores one crucial issue. While most of the new immigrants are similar to the immigrants that preceded them, in that their aspirations and energies will help keep the United States a fresh, productive society, one group differs from all previous immigrants: the Mexicans.

Some 'Welcome' at JFK

Regarding "The New York Times editorial 'Tribute at the Airport'" (July 21): I agree that the prospect of a \$2.50 fee for airport immigration is unpleasant. However, having recently passed through John F. Kennedy airport on my way to a vacation in the United States, I now would be willing to pay 10 times the proposed amount in order to avoid four hours of being headed through the airport like so many cattle — such was the state of my welcome as a visitor.

Greek and Indian Warpaint

Regarding the report "Computer-Colored Films Raise Profits, Hobbies," by Leslie Bennetts (Aug. 6): What is so degrading in putting lipstick on a Greek statue? All Greek statuary, from the friezes of the Parthenon to the Venus de Milo, had enough makeup to put Indian warpaint to shame. If it was good, therefore, for Venus to have some lipstick on, it certainly would do Marlene Dietrich, Greta Garbo or Rudolph Valentino no harm whatsoever to have their faded features in old films revitalized by some good splash of computerized colorization.

U.S. Made It Hard to Extend Freeze, Gorbachev Says in Reply to 6 Nations

By Celestine Bohlen Washington Post Service MOSCOW — Mikhail S. Gorbachev has said that the decision to prolong the Soviet Union's freeze on nuclear testing was a difficult one since the United States was continuing to develop its weapons.

weapons testing until the next U.S.-Soviet summit meeting, and had offered to sponsor meetings of experts on the verification of a ban. In his letter, which was read on Soviet television and released by the official news agency Tass, Mr. Gorbachev said that verification of a test moratorium could be "an important step" toward verifying compliance with a total test ban treaty. This should be the focus of ongoing U.S.-Soviet talks on testing, he said.

hibit anti-satellite systems, including the dismantling of the systems already available to the sides. Soviet Laser Lab Destroyed Michael R. Gordon of The New York Times reported from Washington. Reagan administration officials said Saturday that a fire destroyed a Soviet airborne laser laboratory near Moscow in late May or early June.

Celal Bayar, 103, Dies; Ex-Turkish President

He served as cabinet minister and member of parliament before becoming prime minister from 1937 to 1939. In 1945 he resigned from the Republican Peoples Party to form with Adnan Menderes the opposition Democrat Party, which swept to power in elections in 1950.

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Celal Bayar

Fires Ravage Cote d'Azur

NICE — Fires fed by high winds ravaged thousands of acres of forest and vacation land on the Cote d'Azur on Sunday night. One person suffered a heart attack fighting a fire and four firemen were injured.

acres) of land by Sunday evening. The "diabolo" wind of the Mediterranean was measured at more than 50 mph (80 kph) at one time. It pushed the flames eastward from Tamonon Saturday night, but by Sunday evening was turning them back westward.

London — A senior British policeman has been reinstated after a three-month inquiry into accusations that he associated with criminals. The Manchester Police Authority ordered the reinstatement of John Stalker, the city's deputy chief constable, after deciding that no disciplinary action should be taken.

Manchester Police Deputy Is Cleared of Charges

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DOONESBURY



U.K. Group Seeks Repeal of Official Secrets Act

By Francis X. Clines New York Times Service LONDON — Seventy-five years after the powers of British reporters were curtailed by the Official Secrets Act, a coalition of journalist, union and civic organizations is urging its repeal.

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Weekly International Bond Prices

Provided by Credit Suisse First Boston Securities, London, Tel: 01-623-1277. Prices may vary according to market conditions and other factors.

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| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|-------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | BlackRock Finance | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | BlackRock Finance | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | BlackRock Finance | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | BlackRock Finance | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
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STRAIGHT BONDS All Currencies Except DM

| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|-----------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | Australia | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | Australia | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | Australia | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | Australia | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | Australia | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |

| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|----------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | FRANCE | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | FRANCE | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | FRANCE | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
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| 100 | FRANCE | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |

| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|---------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | SUPRANATIONAL | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | SUPRANATIONAL | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
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| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
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| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | UNITED STATES AMERICA | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | UNITED STATES AMERICA | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
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| 100 | UNITED STATES AMERICA | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
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| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
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| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | FOREIGN TARGETED BONDS OF THE TREASURY AND OF ITS AGENCIES | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
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| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | DM STRAIGHT BONDS | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
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| 100 | DM STRAIGHT BONDS | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |

HIGHEST YIELDS to Average Life Below 5 Years

| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |

HIGHEST YIELDS to Average Life Above 5 Years

| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |

HIGHEST CURRENT YIELDS

| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |

ZERO-COUPON BONDS

| Ant | Security | Yield | Price | Yield |
|-----|------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | Rate | Per 100 | Rate |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |
| 100 | World Bank | 7.50 | 100.00 | 7.50 |

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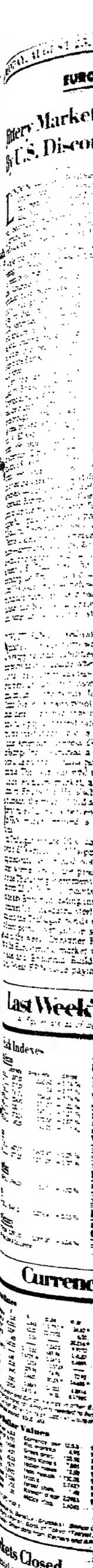
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EUROBONDS

Jittery Market Little Swayed By U.S. Discount-Rate Cut

LONDON — Last Wednesday's half-point cut in the discount rate to 5.5 percent by the U.S. Federal Reserve had been discounted by the New York Treasury bond and Eurodollar bond markets, and caused no excitement.

While the yield curve has steepened a little, providing an opening for 10-year Eurobond transactions, only a sluggish pace has been possible in new issues.

Table with Eurobond Yields for Week Ended Aug. 20. Columns include instrument type and yield percentage.

Table with Market Turnover for Week Ended Aug. 21. Columns include instrument type and turnover values.

American Express Credit Corp. became the latest in series of issuers to tap the market with fixed-rate issues.

Despite asking for a 10-percent payment on the partly paid tranche — compared with the 20 percent other recent issues have set — and pricing the bonds to yield around 65 basis points over equivalent U.S. Treasuries, the American Express party paid were trading last Friday at a discount of 2 points on the bid side to their 10% issue price.

STRUCTURING fixed-rate issues with a partly paid tranche is one way borrowers can reduce the funding costs of swapping their liabilities into floating rate.

Another American Express Group company, Shearson Lehman Holdings Inc., launched a \$300-million, 10-year floating-rate note issue paying 10 basis points over the London interbank offered rate.

Until Trafalgar PLC came to the market last Wednesday with a \$100-million, 10-year floating-rate note, the Eurosterling fixed-rate sector had not seen an issue since mid-July.

But the key British investing institutions that make up the bulk of the market for long-dated sterling paper now appear to be less fearful, and the Trafalgar bonds maintained their offered spread of 115 basis points over gilt in secondary market trading.

Later in the week, Dresdner Finance BV tapped the shorter end of the Eurosterling market with a \$50-million, 9 1/2-percent 1991 issue and Britannia Building Society launched a \$150-million, 10-year FRN issue paying 10 basis points over Libor.

People Closes Frontier

Little Hope Seen For Denver Line

NEWARK, New Jersey — People Express Inc. shut down its Frontier Airlines subsidiary Sunday after the unit ran out of money, and said Frontier would probably go out of business for good on Monday.

All flights were canceled and a spokesman for Continental Airlines quickly announced that it would attempt to honor most Frontier tickets, allowing their holders to travel on Continental flights on a stand-by basis.

United Airlines Inc. agreed last month to buy Frontier from People Express for \$146 million if an agreement could be reached with the Air Line Pilots Association, the union representing Frontier's pilots.

People Express said that if an accord is not reached by Monday, Frontier would seek relief under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and would not resume operations.

"We deeply regret that this step had to be taken but we were left with no choice," People Express said. "Frontier is out of funds, and in the absence of assurance that the sale to United will take place, People Express is unwilling to commit any more of its funds to Frontier."

People Express bought Frontier just last November for \$300 million, or more than twice its selling price to United Airlines, as part of a grand expansion plan. But the purchase severely strained People's finances, leading analysts to predict Sunday's action. People Express posted a \$132.5-million loss in the first half of 1986.

Frontier, based in Denver, lost \$10 million a month during the first half. The 39-year-old airline served more than 50 cities in 22 states and in Canada and Mexico.

Transamerica to Slant Down Transamerica Airlines, said Oakland-based charter carrier, said Friday that it would cease flights on Sept. 30 because of continuing losses and its inability to find a satisfactory buyer, the Los Angeles Times reported.

The shutdown — part of an effort by the carrier's parent, Transamerica Corp., to get out of the transportation business — is expected to result in 1,150 layoffs.

The chairman of Jet America Airlines Inc. urged shareholders to approve the company's \$425-a-share sale to Delta Air Lines Inc. because Jet America is nearly out of money and cannot afford the expansion necessary to compete in its California market, Reuters reported Friday from Long Beach, California.

"We find ourselves in a terrible downward spiral," said the computer airline's chairman, Thomas Talbot.



Workers monitor production of microchips at a Singapore semiconductor factory.

Singapore's First Steps to Recovery

Stocks, Confidence Soar in Asia's 'Limping Dragon'

SINGAPORE — Singapore, one of Asia's four 'industrial dragons' along with Taiwan, South Korea and Hong Kong, is on the road to economic recovery after several years of struggling as the 'limping dragon.'

While business activity has fallen in the last year and unemployment has risen, economists and government officials see signs of revival. But they warn that the recovery is likely to be patchy and fragile.

"Although 1986 probably will not see the end of the economy's problems, it could mark the start of a slow recovery," the U.S. Embassy said in a report issued this month.

The economy, as measured by gross national product, the total value of goods and services, shrank by nearly 2 percent last year after growing 8.2 percent in 1984. By this June, 74,000 of the island's 2.5 million residents were unemployed, more than double the figure in June 1984.

Singapore became the limping dragon after wages began rising in the early 1980s. American, European and Japanese companies wanting to establish cheap manufacturing centers abroad turned increasingly to South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Demand for locally made goods faltered, regional trade declined because of low commodity prices and excessive building activity triggered a property slump.

The Singapore government began fighting back this year by freezing wages, cutting taxes, lowering state fees and trimming employer contributions to a mandatory retirement savings plan.

Diplomats say the measures, designed to reduce the cost of doing business here, are starting to work. Buoyed by the new-found optimism, the Straits Times stock market index has soared 248.34 points since slumping to a low of 333.0 points in April, and the Singapore dollar has strengthened on foreign exchange markets, closing here Friday at 2.15 to the U.S. dollar.

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew injected the biggest dose of confidence in SINGAPORE, Page 9

South Africa Says Turmoil Slows Recovery

JOHANNESBURG — The South African economy, hit by social turmoil, is recovering slowly and erratically from its recession of 1984-85, the Reserve Bank said Sunday.

The bank said inflation-adjusted growth in gross domestic product for the 12 months ended June 30 was only 1 percent, after a sharp fall in production the previous year.

In its annual report to be published Monday, the Reserve Bank estimated provisionally that GDP grew a modest 1.5 percent at an annual rate in the second quarter of this calendar year. The bank predicted that growth in 1986 would not exceed 1.5 or 2 percent.

Gross domestic product measures the value of goods and services produced by an economy, excluding revenue from foreign investment.

Meanwhile, the latest economic survey by the South African insurance giant Sanlam forecast growth of from 2 to 2.5 percent for 1986-87, which was considered insufficient to maintain inflation-adjusted levels of personal income or prevent worsening unemployment.

The Reserve Bank said that "domestic lack of confidence and foreigners' strongly negative perceptions of South Africa's political stability and economic prospects" had slowed recovery.

These perceptions, largely brought on by a state of emergency imposed in July 1985 amid growing civil unrest, had led to a flight of

foreign capital and the drying up of foreign credit, it said. That emergency decree was later lifted, but a new decree was imposed in June.

The freezing of the country's foreign debt repayments in September 1985, and foreign-exchange controls, had not stemmed the outflow of capital, the bank said.

One result was a plunge in the exchange rate of the rand, which on Aug. 11 was 31 percent below its value at the end of 1984.

The Reserve Bank said gross domestic product fell at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.5 percent in the first half of 1985, then changed direction and grew an annual 2.5 percent in the second half before falling back again in the first quarter of 1986.

The decline in the South African economy is illustrated by Reserve Bank figures that show inflation-adjusted GDP growth averaged 4.9 percent from 1946 to 1974, but was down to 2 percent by 1984-85.

The Reserve Bank noted a "disturbing" decline in investment capital since 1982 which, along with the falling value of the rand, had led to a 13.5-percent drop in import volumes over the past year.

This had produced large surpluses on the current account, a broad measure of trade performance. The bank estimated the surplus for calendar 1986 at 5 billion to 6 billion rands (\$1.93 billion to \$2.31 billion at current rates).

It is understood the surplus is being used largely to meet foreign debt payments, at the expense of economic growth.

Madeira Full of Hope In Offshore Bank Plan

By Pascal Fletcher

FUNCHAL, Madeira — Portugal's Atlantic island of Madeira is pushing ahead with an ambitious project to join Gibraltar, Panama and the Cayman Islands as an offshore banking center.

The offshore center, where banks will be allowed to engage in foreign-exchange and financing operations free of domestic restrictions, is part of the autonomous regional government's plan to install a free-trade zone on the island. The center has been given the go-ahead by the central government in Lisbon.

The enterprise, the first of its kind in Portugal, is expected to begin by year's end and bring jobs and income to the island, which is heavily dependent on imports and tourism.

One foreign banker in Lisbon said he found the project "very interesting." And Madeiran officials said Portuguese banks also had expressed interest.

But other bankers were less enthusiastic. "I think it's a bit of a pipedream," said the Lisbon head of one major European bank.

"I really can't see the market for it," said another banker, adding that many banks are shrinking or centralizing their offshore operations.

According to several experts, Madeira, 800 kilometers (500 miles) from the Portuguese mainland, might be too isolated for offshore banking activities. Particular problems would be the cost and convenience of telephone, telex and air communications.

"I can't see why people should be interested in somewhere like Madeira, which is off the beaten track," one banker said.

Officials stressed that Madeira's offshore center would be "prestigious" and free of the allegations of money-laundering and crime-related financial activity sometimes associated with such centers.

"We don't want problems with money from drugs and crime," one official said. "We want a solid institution here."

Under the rules, offshore branches of foreign and Portuguese banks could carry out international financial activities in foreign exchange but not in escados or with residents of Portugal.

In addition, companies and institutions established under the plan would be exempt from local, property and corporate income taxes for 25 years.

The banking laws also guarantee the freedom to repatriate profits and transfer funds, and place no restrictions on importing capital. Finally, they include a clause upholding banking secrecy.

One potential advantage of the project could be to allow the several million Portuguese abroad to open accounts in Madeira and deposit and draw foreign exchange from them.

Talks to Start on Wheat, Taiwan Trade

Grain Producers Oppose U.S., EC Over Subsidies

CAIRNS, Australia — Three big wheat-growing nations meet here Monday to discuss the trade crisis caused by subsidized wheat exports from the United States and the European Community.

Representatives from Australia, Canada and Argentina — which together produce 44 percent of the world's wheat — will seek ways of securing an agreement from the United States and the EC to drop the export subsidies.

Subsidized exports were having "a disastrous effect on the market and a disastrous effect on agricultural economies," Australia's trade minister, John Dawkins, said in an interview.

The wheat producers' meeting was to take place on the sidelines of a 14-nation gathering of agricultural exporters. They are seeking to keep the United States to its commitment to support the inclusion of agriculture in a new round of talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The EC is against the inclusion. This week's meeting was proposed in June by Foreign Minister Bill Hayden of Australia. It will be attended by observers from the United States, the EC and Japan.

Mr. Dawkins said wheat sold at subsidized prices by the United States in an attempt to regain markets lost to the EC's Common Agricultural Policy was encroaching on what were regarded as traditionally Australian markets.

Australian export earnings were hurt by recent sales to North Yemen, Sri Lanka and the Soviet Union.

The United States and the EC, together, had a 1985-86 surplus of 150 million metric tons of wheat, enough to supply the world market for a year.

Mr. Dawkins said that stockpile



Bill Hayden

U.S. Urges Taipei Open Market to Cigarettes, Beer

TAIPEI — U.S. and Taiwan negotiators open talks here Monday that are expected to center on U.S. demands that Taiwan open its markets to American cigarettes, wine and beer on favorable terms or face retaliation.

Taiwan has agreed to give access to the products, but subject to a monopoly tax that the United States says will make them uncompetitive.

The talks are part of a U.S. campaign aimed at forcing Taiwan to reduce a trade surplus with the United States that is forecast to reach \$13 billion this year.

The United States is pressing Taiwan to slash tariffs on a range of other products and wants a re-evaluation of the Taiwan dollar, currently trading at 37.07 to the U.S. dollar.

Taiwan has been told that unless it makes concessions on cigarettes and liquor, the United States will retaliate against Taiwan's exports equivalent in value to the sales it believes it has been denied.

U.S. cigarette and beer companies estimate that they each have a potential market of about \$1 billion a year in Taiwan, informed trade sources in Taipei said.

Taiwan imposes a monopoly tax on all foreign cigarettes that makes them more than twice as expensive as local brands. Foreign spirits are available but foreign beer is banned and only a few wines are allowed in.

Taipei has agreed to give access through a government-run monopoly bureau to U.S. cigarettes, wine and beer before October but with a monopoly tax of 185 percent on top of regular customs tariffs.

Taiwan officials said the negotiators also discuss U.S. demands for 50-percent tariff cuts on 71 other products.

Last Week's Markets

All figures are as of close of trading Friday

Table with Stock Indexes and Money Rates. Columns include instrument type, last week's value, previous week's value, and percentage change.

Currency Rates

Table with Cross Rates and Other Dollar Values. Columns include currency type, rate, and percentage change.

Markets Closed

Financial markets will be closed Monday in Hong Kong and Britain for holidays.

Edelman Ends Fruehauf Bid

NEW YORK — Asher B. Edelman's five-month battle to acquire Fruehauf Corp. has ended and the company has accepted a sweetened \$1.1-billion leveraged buyout bid.

The agreement reached Friday also calls for the friendly suitor, a group of Fruehauf executives led by Merrill Lynch & Co., to buy Mr. Edelman's 9.4-percent stake in Fruehauf, a Detroit-based maker of truck trailers and auto parts, for \$49 a share or \$104.4 million.

The sale would give his group a profit of from \$30 million to \$35 million, according to sources involved in the arrangement.

Environmentalists Put World Bank on Notice: Development Is Not Enough

WASHINGTON — A few weeks ago, demonstrators surrounded a factory being built on Thailand's resort island of Phuket — a World Bank project designed to foster economic progress — and burned it to the ground.

The International Finance Corp., a World Bank affiliate that helps private enterprise, had promoted the Phuket plant after satisfying itself that the environment would be protected. The demonstrators were far from convinced.

The episode, which occurred in June, illustrates the problem the bank is encountering with rising sensitivities in the Third World on conservation issues and the environmental impact of industrial projects.

The International Finance Corp. thought that ample environmental safeguards had been built into Phuket's \$44-million metal refinery, designed to produce tantalum, which has electrical properties suitable for many uses including nuclear reactor components.

Environmental activists on the island, considered by vacationers

its affiliates have a slipshod approach to environmental concerns and have cited some major projects as examples. Among these are:

• Development of Brazil's Pilonoroeste region, an area 300-

quarers the size of France that had virtually unbroken forest cover until a few years ago.

• A long-term program to develop multipurpose hydropower and irrigation on India's Narmada River.

• Resettlement of Indonesians from densely populated Java and Bali to other islands.

• A program to improve livestock-raising in Botswana.

"In retrospect, the easiest course for the Bank may have been not to get involved at all in the Pilonoroeste project, to 'play it safe' and thereby avoid public criticism," the Bank said in its own defense.

Critics assert that the bank and

"I wouldn't say the problem has cleared up but I would say significant progress has been made," Mr. Hager said in an interview.

Steve Schwartzman of Cultural Survival, a group based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, that fights for the rights of indigenous populations, said the Brazilian project was "truly tragic."

"At the present rate of deforestation that area could be completely denuded within a very few years," he said.

India's Narmada river project, a hydropower and irrigation scheme that eventually will involve hundreds of dams and billions of dollars, would flood large tracts of forest rich in wildlife and displace thousands of people, mostly from ethnic minorities.



Table with Selected U.S./O.T.C. Quotations. Columns include instrument type, bid price, and ask price.

New Eurobond Issues

Compiled by Laurence Desvillettes from information supplied by European bond traders.

Table of New Eurobond Issues with columns for Issuer, Amount (millions), Mat., Coup. %, Price, and Terms. Includes sections for Floating Rate Notes, Fixed-Coupon, and Equity-Linked.

WORLD STOCKS IN REVIEW / Via Agence France-Press

Amsterdam

AMSTERDAM — Stock prices climbed steadily last week with Royal Dutch, Philips and Unilever in the forefront. The ANP-CBS General Index ended the week at 295.9, against 293.7 the previous Friday.

London

LONDON — Disappointment over the rebatement of Western nations to follow the U.S. example in cutting interest rates and holiday influences ahead of the long weekend dampened investors' enthusiasm last week on the stock exchange.

Paris

PARIS — The Paris Bourse regained last week the momentum it had lost in late May and early June. The CAC Index broke through the 400-point level to finish at 402.1, against 388 at the start of the week.

Tokyo

TOKYO — Share prices on the Tokyo stock market posted moderate gains in extremely erratic and heavy trading last week.

Latin Nations Call on IMF To Restore Peru's Credit

CARACAS — A 25-nation Latin American economic grouping has called on the International Monetary Fund to reverse its decision to declare Peru ineligible for further credits.

Frankfurt

FRANKFURT — Enticed by hopes of interest-rate cuts, a firm currency and stable prices, investors were especially active last week on the Frankfurt exchange, where the Commerzbank Index closed 81.2 points stronger at 2,091.

Milan

MILAN — The Milan Bourse gained ground last week, with investment funds and provincial buyers returning to the market.

Singapore

SINGAPORE — Trading on the Singapore market last week maintained a bullish trend despite bouts of profit-taking.

Hong Kong

HONG KONG — The Hang Seng Index put on 10.27 points last week to finish at 1,946.03, after soaring to a record high of 1,950.12 Monday. The Hong Kong Index also rose, closing 4.84 points higher at 1216.96.

Zurich

ZURICH — The stock exchange posted a modest gain last week, as the Swiss Bank Corp. index moved from 625.7 to 641.5.

Latest Fed Data Hint at Trouble in the U.S. Banking System

By Norma Cohen. The irony of the high level of borrowings in the latest reported week, analysts said, is that the Fed ended the period by cutting the discount rate to 5.5 percent.

General, the Fed precedes discount-rate cuts by supplying reserves to the banking system so generously that institutions require only minimal borrowings.

But banks that are perceived as a credit risk, no matter how minor, have to pay a premium in the funds markets.

Analysts speculated that those institutions have been borrowing at the Fed.

Just two weeks ago, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. said it was preparing an aid package for the troubled BancOklahoma Corp.

Uganda Returns To Single-Tier Exchange Rate

KAMPALA, Uganda — The Ugandan government abolished the market foreign-exchange rate of 5,000 shillings to the dollar over the weekend and reinstated the priority rate of 1,400 shillings as the sole official rate.

SINGAPORE: Takes Its First Halting Steps Toward Economic Recovery

(Continued from first finance page) fidence in his National Day speech on Aug. 8 when he announced that GDP had grown 0.8 percent in the April-June quarter compared with the corresponding 1985 period.

Despite its size, Singapore's external trade is about the same as China's and more than twice that of India's, so it depends heavily on world trends.

Analysts are monitoring bank lending figures closely for signs of returning investment, but the most recent data show almost no gain.

The overall economy is not going to start improving until there is rising bank lending, one economist said, "and I think there is still a bit of a confidence problem at the moment."

Inflation Fears Depress Bond Prices

By H.J. Maidenberger. NEW YORK — Prices of long-term Treasury bonds fell at week's end and yields rose on increasing investor concern over the inflationary consequences of the Federal Reserve's moves to stimulate the economy.

Dean Witter Reynolds Inc. "indexed the yield on the bellwether long bond today actually rose to 7.28 percent from 7.20 percent at Thursday's close."

U.S. CREDIT MARKET

April high for the long bond was 7.10 percent, while the July high was 7.15 percent, Mr. Sullivan said. "The bond market is also concerned about the recent steep rise in the yield curve recently," he continued.

age point, at Friday's close, compared with 120 points in April and 130 points in July, Mr. Sullivan pointed out.

While Friday's sharp drop in Treasury bond futures prices may have reflected in part the hedge selling, Norman E. Mains, first vice president at Drexel Burnham Lambert's Chicago office, said many traders there were disappointed that central banks in Japan and West Germany had not joined the Fed in cutting their discount rates.

"The surge in durable goods orders for July didn't help sentiment," Mr. Mains said, "nor did the fact that many in the cash bond market began squaring their books for both the weekend and next week, which is one of the slowest trading periods of the year."

In late trading Friday, the discount rate on Treasury 90-day bills dipped 2 basis points, to 5.38 percent, while the six-month issue rose 2 basis points, to 5.45 percent.

U.S. Consumer Rates For Week Ended Aug. 22

Table of U.S. Consumer Rates for Week Ended Aug. 22, including Treasury Bonds, Passbook Savings, Tax-Exempt Bonds, Money Market Funds, Bank Money Market Accounts, and Home Mortgages.

INTERNATIONAL POSITIONS

Table of International Positions listing Title, Salary, and Employer for various roles like Project Manager, Director of Public Affairs, and European Community Representative.

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July 20 1986

NASDAQ National Market

OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday.

Table with columns for stock symbols, prices, and volume. Includes sub-sections for 'Continued' and 'A-Z'.

Table with columns for stock symbols, prices, and volume. Includes sub-sections for 'A-Z' and 'Y-Z'.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

EC Responds Cautiously to Soviet Interest in GATT

By Steven J. Dryden
International Herald Tribune
BRUSSELS — The European Community Commission has issued a cautious response to the Soviet Union's expression of interest in participating in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

For Some Executives, Success Has a Terrible Price

For Them, the American Dream Dissolves Into Drink, Depression and Despair

By Daniel Goleman
New York Times Service
NEW YORK — At 33, Bill O'Donnell Jr. had succeeded. He was vice president of Bally Manufacturing, had an annual salary of \$150,000, owned two Mercedes Benz's and an expensive house in Winnetka, Illinois.

AMEREX and NYSE market data. Includes sections for 'Last Week's AMEX', 'Last Week's NYSE', 'AMEREX Most Actives', 'NYSE Most Actives', 'AMEREX Sales', 'NYSE Sales', 'AMEREX Diaries', and 'NYSE Diaries'.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED. Includes sections for 'ESCORTS & GUIDES' and 'REGENCY NY'.

SPORTS

Rangers Beat Carlton, Close Within 3 Games of Top

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
ARLINGTON, Texas — Rookie Jose Guzman outpitched 300-game winner Steve Carlton here Saturday night...

SATURDAY BASEBALL

Only 176 in his previous 41 games, handed Carlton his second defeat in three American League starts.

land, Andre Thornton's bases-loaded single with one out in the ninth ended the Indians' 11-game losing streak against Boston.

Tudor's Bat Helps Cards Down Astros, 6-5

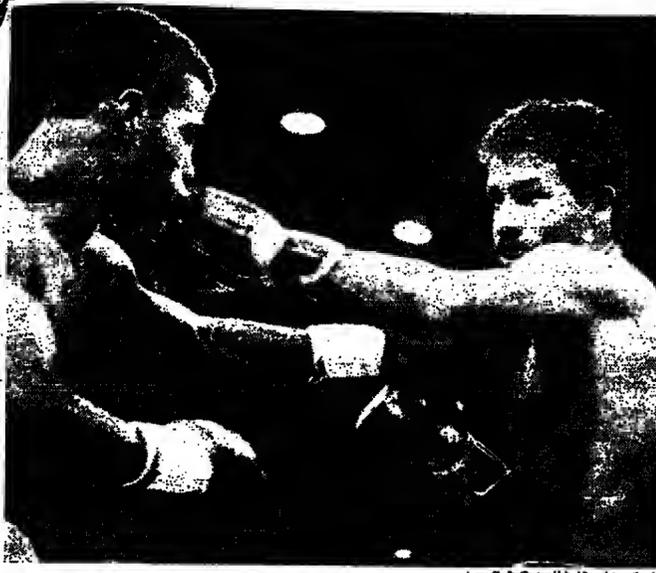
United Press International
ST. LOUIS — Fitcher John Tudor won a game for the St. Louis Cardinals on Friday night with his

The Cardinals took a 3-2 lead in the fifth on Curt Ford's run-scoring double, then blew the game open with a three-run sixth.

co, Mookie Wilson's two-out, two-run single in the fourth inning gave New York its victory.

Yankees 3, A's 2: In New York, Willie Randolph singled home Ricky Henderson from third base with none out in the eighth to beat Oakland.

Padres 4, Phillies 3: In the National League, in San Diego, Bruce Bochy's bases-loaded single through a five-man infield with the bases loaded and one out in the 12th drove in the run that beat Philadelphia.



Miguel Lora, right, sticking it to Enrique Sanchez in the fifth round of their WBC title fight.

Lora, McCallum Retain Titles

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
MIAMI BEACH, Florida — Miguel Lora of Colombia and Mike McCallum of Jamaica retained their world boxing titles here Saturday night.

a unanimous decision Aug. 9, 1985, over Daniel Zaragoza of Mexico. He also won a decision Feb. 8 over Wilfredo Vasquez. Sanchez, 28, was ranked No. 2 by the WBC and No. 3 by WBA.

McCallum knocked Jackson down with a left jab early in the second round and, after an eight-count, moved in to finish him off. McCallum peppered the challenger with punches against the ropes, allowed him to escape, and then pinned him against the ropes again. Jackson put up little resistance, and referee Eddie Eckert stepped in to stop the fight at 2:03 of the round.

McCallum, 25 and rated the No. 1 contender by the WBA, came out punching wildly in the first round and scoring occasionally with overhand rights. McCallum was never in danger, however, and slowed the pace down by using his jab.

Jackson came out strong again in the second, but McCallum ducked his punches and decked Jackson in the center of the ring. McCallum sensed the challenger was in trouble and went right after him, landing heavily with right hands to his body and face.

McCallum, 29, won the vacated WBA title Oct. 19, 1984, with a decision over Sean Manion. He had

down with a left jab early in the second round and, after an eight-count, moved in to finish him off. McCallum peppered the challenger with punches against the ropes, allowed him to escape, and then pinned him against the ropes again.

McCallum, 29, won the vacated WBA title Oct. 19, 1984, with a decision over Sean Manion. He had

E. German Women Swimmers Excel

By Mark Burton
United Press International
MADRID — Hats off to the East Germans, but what of the rest of the world's swimmers?

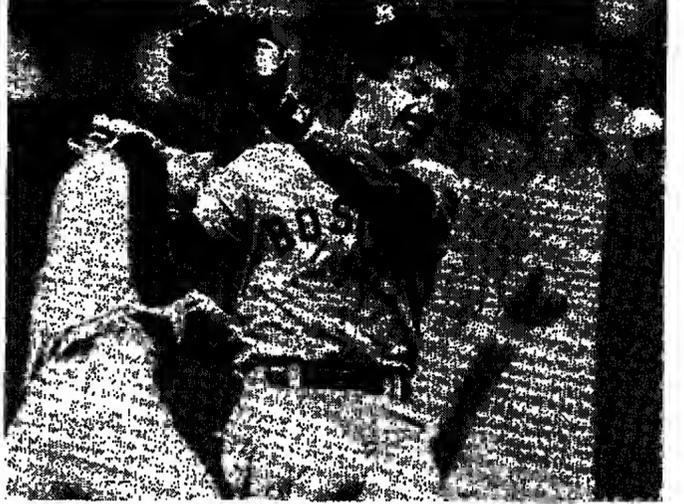
Five of the six world records set at the fifth world swimming championships, which ended here Saturday, went to East German women; all were in the freestyle.

The other major swimming nations could learn some lessons from the systematic approach used by the East Germans—who didn't suffer stomach upsets, peak at the wrong time or have any problems with a pool that had a deep trench halfway down to accommodate synchronized swimmers and water polo players.

The closest the men came to improving world marks were West German Michael Grose's 1:56.53 for the 200 freestyle, Soviet backstroke Igor Pohan's 2:00.55, and Soviet butterfly swimmer Vladimir Salnikov's 2:01.57 minutes for the 200-meter individual medley.

Many of the Western swimmers blamed their mediocre form on mild illnesses picked up from the local food or water or on injuries.

Something would seem to be wrong in the coaching methods if so many top-class swimmers are off-form for what may well be their only



Red Sox right fielder Dwight Evans, right, and first baseman Bill Buckner collided while going after Joe Carter's pop fly in Saturday's ninth inning; the ball fell in for a hit to load the bases, and when Andre Thornton followed with a single, Cleveland had its first victory over Boston in 12 meetings.

SCOREBOARD

Swimming

Table with columns for event, name, and time. Includes World Championships results for 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 10000m, 50000m, and 100000m freestyle, and 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 10000m, 50000m, and 100000m butterfly.

Transition

Baseball

Table with columns for team, wins, losses, and percentage. Includes American League and National League results for various teams.

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LANGUAGE

Vulgarity in Context

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Are schools allowed to discipline students for uttering dirty words out loud or, more specifically, for engaging in "indecent, lewd and offensive" speech?

You bet they are. Freedom of speech does not give a child the right to yell his favorite dirty word in a crowded assembly hall. Writing for the Supreme Court majority in Bethel School District No. 403 vs. Fraser, Chief Justice Warren E. Burger held, "The First Amendment does not prevent the school officials from determining that to permit a vulgar and lewd speech would undermine the school's basic educational mission."

The case was brought by Matthew M. Fraser, who didn't like the way his teachers penalized him for waking up his high-school assembly. He made a campaign speech nominating a friend for student government by using an extended sexual metaphor; when faculty members — who had warned him beforehand — slapped him with a three-day suspension, he sued, and the Supreme Court flunked him.

However, while going along with the majority on the issue of the discretion teachers have in teaching civil public discourse, Justice William J. Brennan Jr. in a separate concurring opinion, raised a linguistic point: what is the meaning of obscene, vulgar, lewd? (The court has not yet caught up with the vogue adjective *fabulous*, rooted in "slippery.")

Brennan is a good egg with an interest in both free speech and precise language. Without blushing, the jurist preceded his opinion by quoting the Fraser speech at the root of the controversy. "I know a man who is firm," said the wiseguy, whose words were now enshrined in an opinion of our highest court, "he's firm in his pants, he's firm in his shirt . . . a man who takes his point and pounds it in. . . . Jeff is a man who will go to the very end — even the climax, for each and every one of you."

Climax gained a sexual meaning, as a euphemistic synonym for "orgasm" in 1918, when British birth-control advocate Marie Carnichael Staples wrote: "In so many cases the man's climax comes so swiftly that the woman's reactions are not nearly ready." The euphemism has

reversed itself: *Climax* now has a more archly forbidden connotation than *orgasm*, now a clinical term so often discussed in popular magazines as to have become dull.

Brennan read that youth's speech and did not register shock and horror. "Indeed, to my mind," he footnoted, "respondent's speech was no more 'obscene,' 'lewd' or 'sexually explicit' than the bulk of programs currently appearing on prime-time television or in the local cinema." He found the language not obscene (a judgmental word not in the Latin *obscenus*, "ill-omened," originally a term of augury), but did find it disruptive, and held that school officials had the right to ensure that a high-school assembly proceed in an orderly manner.

I think Burger and Brennan were right to assert the school's right to rule that prurient pretension is out of order in an assembly; it's okay to shut up kids in formal settings and to shut down their opinions. But I salute Justice John Paul Stevens' dissent for grasping the point of context in the meaning of vulgarity.

Vulgar once meant "the common people"; the *vulgate* is the Latin version of the Bible from the Roman Catholic Church and comes from *vulgata editio*, "the edition in general circulation." A derogatory sense came in when some ecclesiastical thought of the common people as ignorant and inferior, and in the 1700s the word gained its present meaning as "not belonging in good society."

One sense of *vulgar* is undeniably "dirty, smutty," but another active sense is "out of place." Context determines vulgarity. A general cliché like *sexually explicit* is as vulgar in a locker room as a four-letter shocker is in a garden club; each would be suitable and not vulgar in the opposite setting.

To the question, "Was that lewd?" must be added the questions, "Where was it said? To whom? On what sort of occasion?" Fraser, who was dealt with so firmly, could have delivered his speech with impunity — if it had been part of an assignment to analyze vulgarity or illustrate the belaboring of a metaphor.

New York Times Service

Joyce Carol Oates's Garden of Literary Delights

By Phil McCombs

PRINCETON, New Jersey — At age 48, Joyce Carol Oates has published 17 novels, 13 books of stories, 8 of poetry, 2 of essays and literary criticism, 2 of plays. Some critics call her productivity a problem. A James Wolcott review in Harper's was titled "Stop Me Before I Write Again."

"Henry James wrote perhaps 100 volumes," Oates said. "Trollope wrote, I think, maybe 130. Norman Mailer has written many books. When a woman's written a number of books, it seems somehow wrong."

Oates emerged in the 1960s with powerful novels of social observation. "Garden of Earthly Delights" was about migrant workers. The lives of her characters were everyday ones filled with mystery and terror, veering beyond control or comprehension. In 1970 she won the National Book Award with "Them," set in seamy working class Detroit.

Later novels examined, among other things, the worlds of medicine ("Wonderland"), law ("Do With Me What You Will"), politics ("The Assassins"), and religion ("Son of the Morning"). She seemed to specialize in grotesqueries. "Wonderland," for instance, had mass murder, castration and an idiot savant. Someone called her "the fourth Brontë sister." Said a wag at Princeton, "Hell, she's the whole Brontë family."

In the 1980s she is trying something new — a series of satirical, historical "genre" novels, including a family saga ("Bellefleur"), a romance ("A Bloodsmoor Romance") and a detective story ("Mysteries of Winterthorn"). "They're meant to be comic-postmodernist or experimental," she said. "They're playful. They deal with some fairy tale elements."

Her most recent novels explore female experience. "Solstice" portrays two women locked in a wild, dark, possessive relationship. In "Mary: A Life," a woman much like Oates rises from humble origins to success in the male-dominated academic world. (Oates teaches creative writing at Princeton University.) As a child Mary is repeatedly molested by a cousin. Later, when he's repairing a car, she hits the jack and drops the car on him.

"Things happen to little girls, but it wasn't quite like that," Oates said of the molestation she suffered as a child in upstate New York. "It wasn't systematic." And she didn't drop a car on anyone.

She has a new book of short stories coming out this autumn, and her first nonfiction book — on boxing. Her father took her to matches when she was little. She sees the great fighters as "paradigms of masculinity" who rise from America's ghettos to win "mythopoetic" status.

Oates is happily married — she helps her husband edit The Ontario Review, a literary journal they founded — and has many friends, no children, and likes to cook, jog and do housework. "I'm like Flaubert. Flaubert says, you know, live like a bourgeois, so that in your art you can be demonic."

She is thin, with curly black hair and big glasses. Her voice is soft but fast, intense, almost hypnotic. Yet there is a kind of serenity about her, and a modesty — she seems genuinely pleased if you have read something of hers.

Ray Smith, her husband of 25 years, is a retired literature professor. He does not read her fiction until years after it has been published. "She's not someone who writes a chapter and runs in and says, 'Honey, what do you think of this?'" he said. "I think I would feel uneasy with him reading my work, especially the more recent work because I draw on some things, you know, in my life," she said. "Also, Smith said, his wife 'doesn't want to burden me, because she is very prolific.'" "I don't show my writing, really, to anyone while I'm writing it," Oates said, "and then it goes to my editor." "Winterthorn" was an exception; she asked Smith to



Author Oates: "I'm like Flaubert."

read it to make sure the crime clues were strong enough. The book was dedicated to "Raymond, most exciting of readers."

They met at a graduate student office at the University of Wisconsin, where she went after Syracuse. He was eight years older, had tried writing fiction and given it up. Three weeks later they were engaged.

Oates taught at the University of Detroit, then the University of Windsor in Ontario. They moved to Princeton in 1978 when she was offered an adjunct lectureship. She said it was because of her work that they did not have children, though there was no one moment when this was decided.

She starts at 7:30 and skips breakfast to go directly to her desk in a small, uncluttered room. She writes in longhand, rewriting later on a typewriter.

"I think I did a paragraph yesterday," she said "a little less than a page, but I was pleased with it, so it was all right." When she gets going on a book, she may write 12 hours a day. She once told an interviewer that she sometimes wrote 40 or 50 pages a day.

She does "a lot of research. I go to the library, I read for months and months. I take as many as 1,000 pages of notes." She is working on a novel about the United States in the 1950s — the early peace movement, the red scare. It is due out next year.

"I write in two modes, and it's like a pendulum that swings back and forth. I'm in a realistic mode now. I will swing back to her more 'playful' mode for 'The Crossword Heroine' I set at Princeton when Woodrow Wilson was university president and due to be published in 1988, and for 'My

Heart Laid Bare," an ersatz memoir due in 1990.

Alfred Kazin, whose critical classic "Bright Book of Life" contains a section on Oates, says he's "always been fascinated by the contrast between her rather prim external personality and this wild abandonment of the imagination. She's like someone who's dreaming all the time she's awake."

The scholar and critic Leslie Fiedler said of Oates, "Ten years ago she reached a point of high visibility, but since then she's been kind of disappearing. People thought she'd go on to write a really big and impressive novel. [but it's] as if in recent years she hasn't been able to find a subject and instead she's been playing with the form — as if she's driven to write books rather than to share a vision."

Oates responded, "He's out of it. He was prominent in the '60s. He won't even have read my [recent] work."

Fiedler admitted he had not. Nor has Kazin kept up. "I don't think anybody can," he said. Many, however, do. "She's one of the major writers living today," said Susan Gubar, co-editor of "The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women." "She has very much placed herself in an American literary tradition that includes men as well as women." Elaine Showalter, an English professor at Princeton and editor of the 1985 study "The New Feminist Criticism," said: "She has been marginalized because she's a woman."

In her essay "Woman Writer," Oates observed, "A woman who writes is a writer by her own definition, but she is a woman writer by others' definitions. . . . The (woman) writer who imagines herself assimilated into the mainstream of literature, the literature of men, is surely mistaken, given . . . the ongoing self-aggrandizing chauvinism of male critics."

She has been considered for a Nobel prize since at least 1979, according to a news report from Stockholm, where the Swedish Academy of Literature awards the \$225,000 prize. She has spent time in Sweden and other European countries, giving readings. She has met members of the Swedish

Academy. One member sat in on her classes at Princeton when he was translating her work into Swedish, she said.

Last year the respected Swedish literary critic Gubi Gleichman told The Washington Post that Oates was on the "short list" with Bernard Malamud, Jorge Luis Borges (both now dead) and Claude Simon, an obscure French avant-garde novelist whose work lacks plot, characterization and most punctuation. Simon won. Few people in the United States had ever heard of him.

Except Oates and Smith, who thought him wonderful. Their Ontario Review Press had just published his novel "The World About Us," virtually his only work available in English. It became Ontario Review's first, and so far only, money-maker.

The source of Oates's imagination and belief are deeply connected with her childhood in McGregor, New York, a town that her father, Frederic Oates, calls "eight or ten houses along Route 78 — they don't even have a speed sign." He was a tool and the man at General Motors. Joyce and her brother and sister grew up in an old, ramshackle house.

"We're right close to the water, the Tonawanda Creek, and here, the canal's not very far from here," says her mother, Carolina. "When she was writing 'Mary's' she came up and did a lot of looking around."

Many details from home appear in the novel. But "Mary" is not really me. Mary is much tougher than I am. . . . Mary is what I could have been. . . . I never had to deal with life in such a raw manner as Mary did."

In college, Oates wrote fiction and studied American literature. Her use and handling of her home ground in several novels has been compared to Faulkner's creation of Yoknapatawpha County.

"I often read Thomas Hardy, who's just a marvelous writer," she said. "I'm reading something by Faulkner now, and Kafka. I teach James Joyce, I teach D. H. Lawrence, Virginia Woolf. Oh, I like Virginia Woolf immensely." But she added, "It's very difficult to be influenced. You just sort of end up writing your own way."

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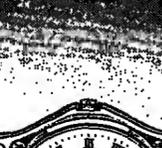
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